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Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02502 110553Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 USSS-00 EUR-12 /038 W
----------076513 110557Z /13
O P 110515Z SEP 78 ZFF-4
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1701
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
WHITE HOUSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2502

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, JO, EG, IS, IT (STAPLETON, RUTH CARTER)
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF RUTH CARTER STAPLETON AND PARTY.

1. MRS STAPLETON AND PARTY ACCEPT WITH PLEASURE KIND INVITATION OF PRINCESS BASMAH FOR DINNER SEPT 11.

2. DR. MCBIRNIE HAS INDICATED A DESIRE FOR PRESS COVERAGE IN JORDAN AND EGYPT. WE POINTED OUT JORDANIAN CUSTOM OF MEDIA COVERAGE OF VIP CALLS ON KING OR REGENT. MCBIRNIE PARTICULARLY WANTED LOCAL REPS OF FOREIGN WIRE SERVICES AND CORRESPONDENTS TO BE AWARE OF MRS STAPLETON'S VISITS TO JORDAN AND EGYPT. SUGGEST POLOFF JONES AND EMBASSY CAIRO ASCERTAIN IN DETAIL PARTY'S WISHES CONCERNING MEDIA EXPOSURE.

3. DR MCBIRNIE STATES MRS CARTER AND PARTY WISH TO STOP IN ROME FOR PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH POPE JOHN PAUL SEPT 14. DR MCBIRNIE STRESSED THAT THE REQUEST WAS FOR A BRIEF, PRIVATE AUDIENCE WHERE MRS STAPLETON AND HIS HOLINESS COULD HAVE A CONVERSATION. MRS STAPLETON REGRETS SHORTNESS OF NOTICE AND HOPES EMBASSY ROME CAN ARRANGE AUDIENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
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AFTER ARRIVAL FROM CAIRO SEPT 14. SHE WOULD PREFER TO PROCEED TO NICE SAME DAY IF AT ALL POSSIBLE BUT RECONGNIZES THAT ONWARD TRAVEL DEPENDENT ON WHETHER HOLY SEE CAN ARRANGE BRIEF PRIVATE AUDIENCE SEPT 14. DR MCBIRNIE WOULD LIKE MEDIA COVERAGE OF ROME STOP INCLUDING VATICAN CALL BUT DOES NOT WANT PRESS PRESENT THROUGHOUT ACTUAL AUDIENCE.

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4. CAIRO REQUESTED TO CANCEL SEPT 14 RESERVATIONS TO PARIS AND TO BOOK ECONOMY SEATS TO ROME AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE SEPT 14. WHEN TIME OF PAPAL AUDIENCE KNOWN, ROME IS REQUESTED TO BOOK ECONOMY SEATS FOR DR AND MRS STAPLETON ONLY TO NICE ON NEXT AVAILABLE FLIGHT. DR MCBIRNIE AND MISS MATTAR WILL NEED NEXT AVAILABLE ECONOMY SPACE FROM ROME TO LONDON. MR RUDY MAXA'S PLANS ARE NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME. IN VIEW TIME PRESSURES IN ROME, PARTY WOULD APPRECIATE IF EMBASSY WOULD MEET AND FACILITATE TRANSPORTATION.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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